

SN 09/782,324
Docket No. S-94,752
In Response to Office Action dated July 17, 2003

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims:

Claims 1-27 (Canceled)

Claim 28 (currently amended): A method for separating different sized biological materials to increase throughput of sampling, comprising the following steps in the order named:

- a. centrifuging said biological materials in a container;
- b. inserting a separation barrier into said container to separate biological materials with a size small enough to pass through said separation barrier from biological materials with a size too large to pass through said separation barrier ;
- c. withdrawing a portion of said biological materials from only one side of said separation barrier.

Claim 29 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein said separation barrier is inserted into said container and into a supernatant to a level above aggregated biological materials that will prevent movement of said aggregate biological materials through said separation barrier when a sample of said supernatant is withdraw from the side of said separation barrier opposite from said aggregate biological materials.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 wherein said container is a microtiter plate have one or more sample wells and said separation barrier is a plate having one or more depending sleeves that conform to the inside of said sample wells.

Claim 31 (previously presented): The method of claim 29 wherein said supernatant includes plasmid DNA therein.

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Claim 32 (previously presented): The method of claim 28 further comprising:

- d. withdrawing said separation barrier from said container;
- e. washing said separation barrier; and
- f. re-using said separation barrier.

Claim 33 (canceled)